

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HONG K 10715 121144Z

43

ACTION ITFE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 INSE-00 SCA-01 DODE-00 SY-05 VO-03

AID-05 DHA-02 ORM-01 /027 W
----- 076571

R 120830Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6946

UNCLAS HONG KONG 10715

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REF: (A) HONG KONG 10077; STATE 210290

1. OUR MOVEMENT OF QUALIFIED AND CLEARED REFUGEES TO CONUS IS PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY BUT WE NOW FIND THAT WE ARE PERILOUSLY CLOSE TO OUR CEILING OF 1300 REFUGEES AND THAT THERE REMAINS A SIZEABLE GROUP OF QUALIFIED REFUGEES WHOM WE WILL BE UNABLE TO MOVE UNLESS THE HONG KONG QUOTA IS INCREASED AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL A.

2. WE HAVE MOVED 932 REFUGEES TO CONUS SINCE JULY 22 AND THERE ARE AN ADDITIONAL 366 ELIGIBLE AND CLEARED PERSONS READY TO TRAVEL. THE MOVEMENT OF THIS GROUP WILL BRING OUR TOTAL NUMBER OF MOVEMENTS TO 1298; THAT IS TWO PERSONS SHORT OF OUR QUOTA OF 1300.

3. THERE ARE 711 OTHERS WHOSE CLEARANCES ARE PENDING AND APPROXIMATELY THREE HUNDRED ADDITIONAL WHO HAVE SUBMITTED CLAIMS TO ELIGIBILITY BUT WHOSE CASES HAVE NOT BEEN REVIEWED. BY THE REFERENCE HONG KONG CABLE WE REQUESTED THAT OUR QUOTA BE INCREASED TP 2400 TO C OPE WITH THE EVER GROWING NUMBER OF QUALIFIED REFUGEES. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE INCREASE IS NEEDED SOONEST SO THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO MOVE ELIGIBLE REFUGEES AND PERMIT ICEM TO SCHEDULE THEIR MOVEMENT BY THE MOST INEXPENSIVE MEANS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975HONGK10715
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750316-0804
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750958/aaaabzmp.tel
Line Count: 52
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ITFE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 HONG KONG 10077, 75 STATE 210290
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <28 JAN 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES
TAGS: SREF, HK, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006